

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /058 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECP:EMCOHEN:JD

APPROVED BY ARA/ECP:WKNEPPER

ARA/CAR:JWSIMMS

EB/CBA/OCA:JSIMMONS

OIM/BIC:WSLYNCH

OIM/BIC:WHADAR

USIA/ILA:DBALBRIGHT

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R 301836Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

UNCLAS STATE 019680

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, DR

SUBJECT: FY 1974 COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

REF: (A) SANTO DOMINGO 5078; (B) SANTO DOMINGO 4913;
(C) SANTO DOMINGO 5195; (D) STATE 1552
(E) SANTO DOMINGO 79

1 ACTION STAFF FOR DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CAP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS FOLLOWS:

FROM STATE - ARA/CAR, JOHN W. SIMMS, CHIEF OF DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AFFAIRS: ARA/ECP - EDWARD M. COHEN, DEPUTY COMMERCIAL COORDINATOR: EB/CBA/OCA, JOHN SIMMONS, ARA LIAISON OFFICER.

FROM COMMERCE - OIM/BIC, WILLIAM S. LYNCH, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: OIM/BIC, WALTER HAIDAR, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC COUNTRY SPECIALIST.

FROM USIA - ILA, D. BRUCE ALBRIGHT, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROGRAM OFFICER.

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2. ACTION STAFF HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED EMBASSY'S PROPOSED CAP (REFTEL A) AND SUBMITS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON IT:

A. PROPOSED CAP REFLECTS CONSIDERABLE CREATIVE THINKING, AND WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE NEW INITIATIVES, ON PART OF EMBASSY. IN GENERAL THE PROPOSED OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

SEEM TO US TO BE COMMENDABLY SPECIFIC, MEANINGFUL AND REALISTIC. ACTION STAFF ACCORDINGLY HAS OBTAINED STATE/COMMERCE/USIA CONCURRENCE FOR THE CAP, AND WE ENCOURAGE EMBASSY TO PROCEED TO IMPLEMENT CAP VIGOROUSLY.

B. WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED TO NOTE THAT, IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHING A BROAD-BASED COUNTRY TEAM TASK FORCE (REFTEL B) FOR THE CAP, THE EMBASSY HAS ASSIGNED PRODUCTIVE COMMERCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO POLITICAL OFFICERS (REFTEL C) AND TO USAID STAFF OFFICERS (CAP, OBJECTIVE SEVEN, ACTION ONE). WE WELL REALIZE THAT EMBASSY'S SMALL AND BUSY COMMERCIAL STAFF WILL NEED SUCH ASSISTANCE FROM "NON-COMMERCIAL" PERSONNEL IN ORDER FOR THIS EXEMPLARY COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM TO FULFILL ITS PROMISE.

C. WE ARE FURTHER GRATIFIED TO NOTE THAT, THROUGH THE OTHER ACTIONS DETAILED UNDER OBJECTIVE SEVEN, THE EMBASSY IS ALSO REPROGRAMMING OTHER OF ITS AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND CURRENT WORKLOADS SO AS TO FREE MORE RESOURCES FOR THE CAP. AS EMBASSY HAS ALREADY BEEN INFORMED (REFTEL D), ACTION STAFF HAS OBTAINED STATE'S CONCURRENCE FOR ELIMINATION OF CERP "PERIODIC ECONOMIC REVIEW," AS EMBASSY HAD REQUESTED IN REFTEL C, THUS FURTHER FACILITATING CAP'S OBJECTIVE SEVEN

D. RE CAP'S OBJECTIVE FIVE, ACTION THREE, CALLING INTER ALIA FOR USDOC AND/OR STATE TO SEND A PARTICIPANT TO EMBASSY'S PROPOSED SEMINAR IN JUNE 1974 ON TRADE BARRIER REDUCTION, ACTION STAFF HAS DETERMINED THAT FUNDS ARE NOT (REPEAT NOT) AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION FROM EITHER STATE OR USDOC. HOWEVER, WE SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY AND CEDOPEX PROCEED WITH PLANS FOR SEMINAR, RELYING ON EXPERT-UNCLASSIFIED

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ISE AVAILABLE IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND PERHAPS ALSO REQUESTING (VIA CEDOPEX) THAT QUALIFIED PARTICIPANT BE SUPPLIED FROM CIPE HEADQUARTERS IN BOGOTA.

E. WE ALSO NOTE THAT, SINCE SUBMITTAL OF CAP, EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED (REFTEL E) INFORMATION ON AVAILABILITIES OF U.S.-PRODUCED SMALL SOLAR-ENERGY UNITS. ACTION STAFF HAS ACTIVATED DISCUSSION OF THIS WITH

APPROPRIATE USDOC OFFICE (CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDINGS MATERIAL PROGRAM), WHICH IN RESPONSE IS CONTACTING MANUFACTURERS OF SUCH PRODUCTS, AND IS REQUESTING THEY SEND INFORMATION PROMPTLY TO EMBASSY.

3. THE ACTION STAFF LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING THE MONTHLY REPORTS OF THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED BY THE

EMBASSY (REFTEL B), AND WE ENCOURAGE THE EMBASSY TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OR ANY OF US WHENEVER THE EMBASSY FEELS A NEED FOR SPECIAL SUPPORT IN WASHINGTON ON A MATTER OF IMPORTANCE FOR THE SUCCESS OF ITS COMMERCIAL ENDEAVORS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE019680
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EMCOHEN:JD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974015/aaaaaeci.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) SANTO DOMINGO 5078; (B) SANTO DO, MINGO 4913;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 FEB 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <27 NOV 2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY 1974 COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM (CAP) DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
TAGS: BEXP, DR
To: SANTO DOMINGO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005